

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2-16 have been cancelled. New claims 17-27 have been added. In addition, the specification has been amended in order to correct certain typographical, grammatical, idiomatic or formatting errors that were discovered in reviewing the file. Further, in the summary of the invention, the text was changed to be consistent with the currently claimed subject matter of claim 1. No new matter is added by these changes.

Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification because the same patent number is used for two different patents at page 6. This error has been corrected.

Claim Objections

Claims 2, 5 and 16 are objected to because they are of improper dependent form. This objection is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims. Applicant has endeavored to avoid this basis for objection in drafting the newly added claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 112, first paragraph

Claims 1, 7-10 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirements. In particular, the Examiner refers to terms that are used in the claims but are not clearly defined in the specification. This rejection is moot for claims 7-10 and 12-15, which have been cancelled. It is submitted that with respect to claim 1, the rejection is overcome by the amendment to the claim.

In particular, 'first and second Usenet agent' now reads 'first cached agent and second cached agent.' Support for this change is found on pages 49 – 53, and in Examples 1 to 3. As to the term 'transparently' Applicants respectfully draw the Examiners' attention to page 43 line 1 to page 46 line 24 which disclose three methods of allowing transparent encoding of objects URLs. Furthermore, the term 'Usenet message ID' is disclosed on page 43 line 15, where a method of transparent encoding using the encoding of a message-ID in the Usenet is disclosed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-10 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner has identified several instances of indefiniteness in formulating the rejection. As to claims 2-10 and 16, the rejection is moot. As to claim 1, Applicants believe that the basis for rejection has been removed. In particular, the phrases ‘Usenet-like’ and ‘their original server’ have been deleted. As to an antecedent problem with “the WWW,” Applicants believe that this is an issue as there is only one WWW and as such the WWW. Also, the phrase “the improvement” has been deleted.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9, 11-16 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,526,479 (Rosenzweig). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Rosenzweig teaches a method of associating a URL with a web object for caching web resources. At col. 4, lines 30-55 Rosenzweig discloses URLs as a way of referencing internet resources used for the Usenet. It also discloses protocol used for the Usenet and that it can transparently retrieve the object from its original server (col. 5, lines 9-19). At col. 4, lines 30-67 and col. 5, lines 1-9 Rosenzweig also discloses a file posted on the internet and retrieving these files from an internet host.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited document (Rosenzweig) fail to teach or suggest the feature of,

“if the object is not found posted on the Usenet, or its version is not current; retrieving the object form an original server and receiving digitally signed permission to post the object on behalf of the server and to cancel the expired version, if any, and transmitting this permission to one or more of the Usenet servers along with the object”

which is recited in amended independent Claim 1.

With regards to original independent claim 6, which is now presented in revised form as claim 21, Rosenzweig discloses host computer with access to the WWW at col. 4, lines 1-14 providing multimedia information services. At col. 4, lines 30-55 and col. 7, lines 22-47 Rosenzweig also teaches that caching of web resources and communication between client server and a web host server via either the internet or Usenet.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited document (Rosenzweig) fails to teach or suggest the feature of,

“if the object is not found posted on the Usenet, or its version is not current; retrieving the object from an original server”

which is recited in new independent Claim 21.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 3, 4 and 8 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over the combination of Rosenzweig (6,526,479) and Fleischman (6,507,847). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

First, the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims. Second, as to the rewritten new claims, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner’s assertion that it would be obvious to combine the Method of Caching Web Resources of Rosenzweig with the History Database Structure for Usenet by Fleischman is in error. The disclosure of Rosenzweig is directed to a storage media containing caching logic for caching web resources obtained from the internet. Rosenzweig teaches the use of a URL to locate and retrieve an item from a location at another internet site. Rosenzweig fails to teach anything about integrating the Web and Usenet and using the Usenet to transparently deliver, mirror and cache Web objects.

Fleischman does not remedy this deficiency. In Fleischman the disclosure is directed to a system for maintaining a history database of newsfeeds to a Usenet server. In contrast to the World Wide Web, Usenet is a forum that allows many people to collaborate with many of their peers in the same interest group. Fleischman also teaches that Usenet is distinguishable from e-mail transmissions and chat rooms. Fleischman teaches a sub-system that may improve a Usenet server, if used as a part of it. It has no value on its own, only as part of a Usenet server.

Based on the above, it would not be at all obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the history database of Fleischman to the cached web resources obtained from the internet of Rosenzweig because as stated in Fleischman in column 1, lines 22-34, the World Wide Web is in contrast to the Usenet and they simply cannot be combined. It would not be obvious to combine a sub-system of a Usenet server (Fleischman) with a Web cache (Rosenzweig) to achieve transparent delivery of Web objects via the Usenet.

The Examiner has rejected claim 10 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over the combination of Rosenzweig and Fleischman, and further in view of Dillon (6,546,488). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

First, the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claim. Second, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's assertion that it would be obvious to combine the Dillon reference with the both of the abovementioned patents is also in error. The disclosure of Dillon is directed to formatting newsgroup information into newsgroup packets for multicast over a multicast network such as a digital geosynchronous satellite IP multicast system. Dillon's patent does not have anything to do with Web objects. It is about multicasting Usenet articles via satellites. As stated above Rosenzweig is directed to a storage media containing caching logic for caching web resources obtained from the internet. As can be seen from figure 10 of Dillon clearly shows the Usenet server being directed straight to a local area network and onto an ISP news server and clients and not onto the internet.

Based on the above, it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Web caching with satellite multicast of Usenet articles of Dillon with both of the abovementioned patents they simply cannot be combined.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

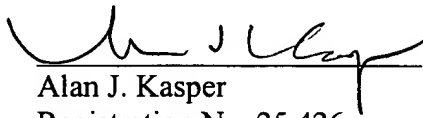
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No. 09/725,312

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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